

United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

DATE: April 19, 1999

REPLY TO: Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance:Banicki:65193

ATTN OF:

SUBJECT: INFORMATION—RECENT CLEAN AIR ACT FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES
February-March 1999

TO: Distribution

The following Federal Register Notices, published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) during the period February-March 1999, may be of interest to the Department of Energy complex. Federal Register citations and EH-412 points-of-contact are provided for your information.

- FINAL AMENDMENTS: 40 CFR Parts 51, 60, 61 and 63--"Recordkeeping and Reporting Burden Reduction." On September 11, 1996, the EPA proposed changes to reduce unnecessary reporting and recordkeeping burdens due to regulations implementing the Clean Air Act. This review was part of a Government-wide initiative as directed by the President on March 1, 1995. With this document, the EPA is finalizing the proposed changes. (64 FR 7457; February 12, 1999).
- NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: 40 CFR Part 68--"Method and Format for Submitting Risk Management Plans (RMPs) Under Section 112(r) of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments." This document provides information about the method and format for submitting risk management plans (RMPs) under EPA's regulations for preventing chemical accidents (40 CFR Part 68). RMPs must be submitted by the owner or operator of any facility that has a process containing more than a threshold quantity of a chemical listed at 40 CFR 68.130. The deadline for submitting RMPs is June 21, 1999, for any facility with a process containing more than a threshold quantity of a listed chemical by that date. EPA is issuing two documents, the "RMP Submit User's Manual," and the "RMP ASCII File Format," for use in submitting RMPs. (64 FR 9989; March 1, 1999).
- NOTICE OF DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS--"Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-1997." The Draft Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-1997 is available for public review. Annual U.S. emissions for the period 1990-1997 are summarized and presented by source category and sector. The inventory contains estimates of carbon dioxide; methane; nitrous oxide; hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs); and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), as well as estimated emissions of volatile organic compounds, oxides of nitrogen, and carbon monoxide. The approach used to estimate emissions for the greenhouse gases was adapted from the methodologies recommended by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The U.S. Greenhouse Gas Inventory is being prepared to provide a basis for the ongoing development of a comprehensive and accurate system to identify and quantify

emissions and sinks of greenhouse gases in the U.S. It will serve as part of the U.S. submission to the Secretariat of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and to contribute to the updates to the U.S. Climate Action Report. Comments were due by April 9, 1999. However, comments received after that date will still be welcomed and will be considered for the next edition of this report. (64 FR 11881; March 10, 1999).

- **NOTICE OF DESIGNATION: 40 CFR Parts 53 and 58--"Ambient Air Monitoring Reference and Equivalent Methods: Designation of a New Reference Method."** In accordance with 40 CFR Part 53, the EPA has designated a new reference method for measuring concentrations of PM_{2.5} in ambient air. The new reference method for PM_{2.5} is a manual monitoring method based on a particular commercially available PM_{2.5} sampler. In accordance with regulations at 40 CFR Part 53, the EPA examines various methods for monitoring the concentrations of certain pollutants in the ambient air. Methods that are determined to meet specific requirements for adequacy are designated as either reference or equivalent methods, thereby permitting their use under 40 CFR Part 58 by States and other agencies in determining attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. (64 FR 12167; March 11, 1999).
- **REQUEST FOR DATA AND ADVANCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING AND CORRECTION: 40 CFR Part 82--"Protection of Stratospheric Ozone; Listing of Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances; Correction."** On February 18, 1999, the EPA published in the Federal Register (64 FR 8043), a Request for Data and Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Inadvertently, the docket number listing in the ADDRESSES section was incorrect. The correct docket number and contact information is listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. The complete Federal Register entry is accessible on the Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance web site at the following location: <http://tis.eh.doe.gov/oepa/rules/64fr14417.pdf>. (64 FR 14417; March 25, 1999).
- **NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING AND CORRECTION: 40 CFR Part 82--"Protection of Stratospheric Ozone; Listing of Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances; Correction."** On February 18, 1999, the EPA published in the Federal Register (64 FR 8038), a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Inadvertently, a paragraph in the Table of Appendix G to Subpart G was incorrect. In the "conditions" column of the Fire Suppression and Explosion Protection Total Flooding Agents Table for substitute IG-100, it was stated incorrectly that a design concentration of less than 10 per cent may only be used in normally occupied areas, as long as an employee who could possibly be exposed can egress within 30 seconds. Instead, the Table should read: "A design concentration of less than 10 per cent may only be used in normally unoccupied areas, as long as an employee who could possibly be exposed can egress within 30 seconds." The complete Federal Register entry is accessible on the Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance web site at the following location: <http://tis.eh.doe.gov/oepa/rules/64fr14417.pdf>. (64 FR 14417; March 25, 1999).

- NOTICE OF PROPOSED INTERPRETATION AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS--"Extension of Attainment Dates for Downwind Transport Areas."
This Notice announces EPA's interpretation of the CAA regarding the possibility of extending attainment dates for ozone nonattainment areas that have been classified as moderate or serious for the 1-hour standard and which are downwind of areas that have interfered with their ability to demonstrate attainment by dates prescribed in the CAA. A number of areas may find themselves facing the prospect of being reclassified or "bumped up" to a higher classification in spite of the fact that pollution beyond their control contributes to the levels of ozone they experience. This Notice addresses the problem by providing an avenue to extend the attainment dates for areas affected by transported pollution. The EPA intends to finalize the interpretation in this guidance only when it applies in the appropriate context of individual rulemakings addressing specific attainment demonstrations and requests for attainment date extensions. If EPA approves an area's attainment demonstration and attainment date extension request, the area would no longer be subject to "bump up" for failure to attain by its original attainment date. (64 FR 14441; March 25, 1999).

General questions concerning this memorandum should be directed to Lee Banicki of my staff (leroy.banicki@eh.doe.gov; 202-586-5193). Questions pertaining to the Notice related to risk management plans should be directed to Gustavo Vazquez of my staff (gustavo.vazquez@eh.doe.gov; 202-586-7629), and questions pertaining to the remaining Notices should be directed to Ted Koss of my staff (theodore.koss@eh.doe.gov; 202-586-7964).

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Director
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